GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:96
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2008
EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES IN RURAL AND URBAN AREAS
Agarwal Shri Dhirendra;Patel Shri Jivabhai Ambalal

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the break-up of percentage of availability of education in the rural and urban areas in terms of vocational, University and technical education in the country;

(b) whether the ratio of rural areas in the above kind of education is quite low;

(c) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the achievement as a result thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.96 FOR ANSWER ON 4.3.2008 REGARDING EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES IN RURAL AND URBAN AREAS ASKED BY DR. DHIRENDRA AG ARWAL AND SHRIJIVABHAI AMBALAL PATEL

(a) to (d): The Ministry of Human Resource Development does not maintain data regarding availability of education in the rural and urban areas in terms of vocational, university and technical education in the country.

However, it is a fact that there are significant disparities in the availability of colleges in the rural and urban areas in the country. Over three fifths of colleges imparting courses in general education are located in urban areas. This figure is over 80% in the case of technical and professional colleges.

With a view to remedy the situation, in the XIth Plan, the following measures are proposed:

i) To give support for starting of 370 colleges in districts where the Gross Enrolment Ratio is lower than the national average. Most of these districts also have a concentration of SCs, STs and Minorities,

ii) To support over 6000 colleges which were not hitherto given any funding by UGC.

iii) To launch a scheme of incentivising State Governments for expansion and starting of new institutions of Higher Education.

The University Grants Commission provides special grants to universities and colleges located in backward areas to improve their infrastructure to a level where these institutions are able to introduce innovations and meet challenges of globalization of higher education.

On the vocational education side, a.scheme for the establishment of 600 new Polytechnics in Government and PPP mode and promotion of another 400 Polytechnics in the private sector is on the anvil. The above proposal will ensure provision of support for starting a Polytechnic in every district, which does not have a Polytechnic at present.